

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 to 2, 7, 14 to 16, 20 to 21, 23 to 25, 35 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Stretch (US 6,619,453). Claims 3 to 6, 8 to 13, 17 to 19, 22 and 26 to 28 were objected to, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 36 was allowed.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 3 to 6, 8 to 13, 17 to 19, 22 and 26 to 28 were objected to, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Withdrawal of the objections to claims 3 to 6, 8 to 13, 17 to 19, 22 and 26 to 28 is respectfully requested in view of the below.

35 U.S.C. 102 Rejections

Claims 1 to 2, 7, 14 to 16, 20 to 21, 23 to 25, 35 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Stretch (US 6,619,453).

Stretch discloses an electromagnetic friction clutch 70. See col. 6, lines 14 to 15. The particle clutch 68 is not an electromagnetic friction clutch. See col. 1, lines 38 to 40. Electromagnetic friction clutch 70 does not have a “magnetic circuit being guided in the first and second clutch parts in such a way that the magnetic flux changes at at least ten flux crossover points one after the other in a direction of flow of the magnetic circuit between the first and second clutch parts.” Again, Stretch explicitly states that the clutch 68 is not an electromagnetic friction clutch.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and its dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is respectfully requested.

With further respect to claim 14, Stretch does not show or teach “wherein the first clutch part includes a first clamping jaw and a second clamping jaw movable with respect to each other and the second clutch part is configured as a disk positioned between the first and second clamping jaws.” Nor has the office action asserted such features.

With respect to claim 35, clutch 70 of Stretch does not teach or show “the magnetic circuit being guided in the first and second clutch parts so that the magnetic flux changes at at


least five flux crossover points one after the other in a direction of flow of the magnetic circuit between the first and second clutch parts, the soft magnetic material being at least partially configured as a laminated core having layers electrically insulated from each other at right angles to the direction of flow.”

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 35 as well is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,
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